

Title 49 CFR Part 391

DRIVER QUALIFICATIONS

Who is subject?	<p>A carrier in Utah is subject to the rules for driver qualifications if it operates vehicles that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Over 10,000 pounds GVWR operating in interstate commerce;b. Over 10,000 pounds GVW operating as a private carrier in intrastate commerce; orc. Any size vehicle transporting hazardous material of a type or quantity that requires the vehicle to be placarded.d. Capable of hauling 15 or more passengers including the driver.
Requirements	<p>Under Part 391, a driver operating in intrastate commerce must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. be physically qualified under 49 CFR 391.41;b. be 18 years old for intrastate transportation,c. be 21 years old for interstate transportation, or when hauling hazardous materials;d. speak and read English well enough to do the job;e. have a driver's license that is valid for the type of vehicle driven;f. be able to drive the vehicle safely;g. know how to properly load and secure cargo;h. not be disqualified from driving a commercial motor vehicle.
Medical Requirements	<p>When driving, a driver is required to have in possession, a current and valid medical certificate (health card) showing that he or she is physically qualified to drive a commercial motor vehicle. Details for medical examinations are found in 49 CFR, 391.43. U.S. DOT medical certificate forms are available from a physician or private sources.</p>
Certificate renewal	<p>A medical certificate must be renewed every two years. Some medical conditions may require more frequent medical certification.</p>
Medical waiver	<p>Under certain circumstances, an driver may be granted a waiver from the following physical qualification requirements: vision, insulin-dependent diabetes, deaf and hard of hearing, and limb impairment.</p> <p>An application requesting a medical waiver for intrastate drivers must be submitted to the Utah Driver's License Division</p> <p>A request for a medical waiver for drivers must be submitted to the U.S. DOT.</p> <p><u>The medical examiner's certificate and the waiver document must be carried in the commercial vehicle at all times while being operated.</u></p>

**Driver
Qualification File
(DQ)**

49 CFR, 391.51

A carrier must maintain a driver qualification file for each of its drivers. The file is to be kept at the carrier's principal place of business for as long as the driver is employed by the carrier and for three years after the driver leaves the carrier's employ.

The following items are required in the file:

- a.** Application for employment (see 49 CFR, 391.21 for items required in an application).
- b.** Inquiry to previous employers (prior three years).
- c.** Driving record inquiry to state agencies (prior three years).
- d.** Medical examiner's certificate.
- e.** Copy of medical waiver, if issued.
- f.** Driver's road test and certificate of road test (a legible photocopy of a valid driver's license is an acceptable substitute if the driver was road tested for the class of vehicle the driver will operate). For exceptions see 49 CFR, 391.33.
- g.** Annual driver's certification of violations for past 12 months.
- h.** Annual review of driving record showing date and who performed the review.
- i.** Annual copy of driver's driving record.

Files must be maintained at the carrier's principal place of business.